



Shanghai Consulate News for Americans

Issue 62

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Global Entry Program and TSA Pre✓

Leaving China?

Did you know that you can end your enrollment with the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) by visiting the step.state.gov site? If you previously submitted a paper enrollment form to the U.S. consulate, you may end your enrollment by sending an email request to: ShanghaiACS@state.gov.

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Have you ever wished that you could pass through passport control more quickly? Or that you could avoid the need to remove your shoes, belt, light jacket, or laptop from your bag at U.S. airport security checkpoints?

U.S. citizens who join CBP's Trusted Traveler programs, such as Global Entry, are eligible to participate in TSA Pre✓™ (an expedited screening initiative) and enjoy some of these very benefits.

Global Entry is a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) program that allows expedited clearance for pre-approved, low-risk travelers upon arrival in the United States. Though intended for frequent international travelers, there is no minimum number of trips necessary to qualify for the program. Participants may enter the United States by using automated kiosks located at select airports.

At airports, program participants proceed to Global Entry kiosks, present their machine-readable passport or U.S. permanent resident card, place their fingertips on the scanner for fingerprint verification, and make a customs declaration. The kiosk issues the traveler a transaction receipt and directs the traveler to baggage claim and the exit.

Travelers must be pre-approved for the Global Entry program. All applicants undergo a rigorous background check and interview before enrollment.

While Global Entry's goal is to speed travelers through the process, members may be selected for further examination when entering the United States. Any violation of the program's terms and conditions will result in appropriate enforcement action and revocation of the traveler's membership privileges.

For more information on how to participate and a list of participating airports and airlines, please visit www.tsa.gov or www.globalentry.gov.

Air Quality Monitor at U.S. Consulate Shanghai

The U.S. Consulate General in Shanghai has a PM2.5 air quality monitor to measure fine particles in the air. Data from this monitor are used to calculate the Air Quality Index (AQI) which provides a health resource for the American community. If you would like to view our data, please look for us on Twitter (@cgshanghaiair) or view our website at <http://shanghai.usembassy-china.org.cn/airmonitor.html>.



Travel Warnings and Alerts

Security reminder: It is advisable that you and your family review your personal security profile and be aware of your surroundings at all times.

Since our previous Newsletter, the U.S. Department of State has issued new **Travel Warnings** for the following countries:

Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	03/14/2013
Guinea	03/14/2013
Sudan	03/13/2013
Tunisia	03/13/2013
Libya	03/11/2013
Syria	03/01/2013
Iraq	02/25/2013

Travel Warnings are issued to describe long-term, protracted conditions that make a country danger-

ous or unstable. A Travel Warning is also issued when the U.S. Government's ability to assist American citizens is constrained due to the closure of an embassy or consulate or because of a drawdown of its staff. This information is available at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html.

Since our previous Newsletter, the U.S. Department of State has issued new **Travel Alerts**:

Kenya	02/28/2013
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Travel Alerts are issued to disseminate information about short-term conditions generally within a particular country or region that pose imminent risks to the security of U.S. citizens. Natural disasters, terrorist attacks, coups, anniversaries of ter-

rorist events, election-related demonstrations or violence, and high-profile events such as international conferences or regional sports events are examples of conditions that might generate a Travel Alert.

This information is available at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/pa/pa_1766.html.

The most up-to-date information regarding permitted and **prohibited items** on flights can be viewed online at www.tsa.gov.

For additional information, please visit "**Americans Traveling Abroad**" on the website of the U.S. Department of State http://travel.state.gov/visa/americans/americans_1252.html.

Upcoming Holidays & Other Closures

A full list of all of our holiday closures is online at <http://shanghai.usembassy-china.org.cn/holidays.html>. The ACS Unit will be **CLOSED** to the public on:

<u>April 4, 2013, Thursday</u>	Tomb Sweeping Day 清明节 Qīngmíng Jié
<u>May 1, 2013, Wednesday</u>	International Labor Day 国际劳动节 Guójì Láodòng Jié
<u>May 27, 2013, Monday</u>	Memorial Day 清明节 Zhènmíng Jié

American Citizen Services (ACS) Contact Information

U.S. Consulate General, Shanghai, China, 1038 West Nanjing Road, 8/F
Westgate Mall 梅龙镇广场 (Méi Lóng Zhèn Guǎng Chǎng)

Routine Services: 8:00am - 11:30am

Passport Pickups: 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Mon - Fri *Closed on Wednesday afternoons, weekends, and holidays.

After Hours Emergencies: (86-21) 3217-4650

Homepage: shanghai.usembassy-china.org.cn/service.html

News: Site Helps Foreigners Get Stipend To Study In City

(From Yang Jian, Shanghai Daily, February 27, 2013)

Shanghai has set up a website where foreign students studying at local universities can apply for scholarships in a push to encourage more outstanding students to study in the city, educational authorities said yesterday.

Students can apply on the website www.study-shanghai.org, which was launched by the Shanghai Education Commission for scholarships of up to 40,000 yuan (US\$6,420). The website is in English, Japanese, and Korean.

"The scholarships were offered by the city government to encourage more outstanding students to enroll in long-term degree programs,

those of over half a year, in the city," Yang Weiren, the commission's director of international cooperation and exchange said yesterday.

The number of international students in the city has been increasing in recent years. About 51,000, mainly from South Korea, Japan and the United States, were studying in Shanghai in 2012, but only a third of them were in long-term degree programs. The commission hopes the number of foreign students will increase to 70,000, a 37 percent gain, by 2015, said Yang.

Moreover, the scholarship is expected to help at least 70 percent of foreign students studying in long-term degree programs, he added.

Foreign students coming to the city

to receive postgraduate educations at local universities can receive 40,000 yuan per year in scholarship. It can be used for tuition, living expenses and insurance for foreign students.

Those who come to study undergraduate courses in the city can receive up to 20,000 yuan per year.

The city government will also offer 4,000 yuan to 8,000 yuan per year in scholarships for outstanding foreign students who have been studying at local universities, according to the commission.

The city began offering scholarships to international students in 2005 and Yang said over 25 million yuan are granted to students every year.

72-hour Visa-free Transit in Beijing or Shanghai

(<http://www.chinaembassy.org.nz/eng/lsqz/t1002503.htm>)

Starting from 1 January 2013, holders of passports issued by the following countries do not need a visa if transiting through Beijing Capital International Airport, Shanghai Pudong International Airport and Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport, provided they hold valid passports, visas for the onward countries, final destination tickets and have booked onward flight seats, and stay in Beijing or Shanghai for less than 72 hours.

Argentina, Austria, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece,

Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States.

**** IMPORTANT ****

1. It only applies to passengers who are transiting through Beijing Capital International Airport, Shanghai Pudong International Airport and Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport. The destination and place of departure cannot be the same. (e.g. New York – Shanghai - New York)

2. It does not apply to passengers who are travelling by train, ship or other means of transportation.

3. Visitors are not allowed to leave Beijing or Shanghai to other cities during the 72-hour visa-free period. You must depart from the city where you arrive in. For example, if you arrived at the Shanghai Pudong Airport, you must depart from Shanghai, NOT from the Beijing Capital International Airport or other airports.

4. The 72 hours will be counted from the time when the transit permit is granted, not from the time when the flight lands at the airport.

5. For more information, please contact:

Beijing Exit and Entry Frontier Inspection 0086 10 56095400

Shanghai Exit and Entry Frontier Inspection 0086 21 51105100